

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 11923 031649Z

70

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00

PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /086 W

----- 106674

R 031547Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6728

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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BRUSSELS AND ROME FOR FAA

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EAIR, EG

SUBJ: CHARTER SERVICES: EGYPT-SINGAPORE

REF CAIRO A-157 (NOTAL),

1. EMBASSY INFORMED THAT ORIENT PACIFIC AIRWAYS, OPERATING FROM SINGAPORE, HAS BEEN GIVEN CONTRACT BY READING AND BATES DRILLING COMPANY TO PROVIDE CREW CHANGE FLIGHTS FROM SINGAPORE TO HURGHADA, LOCATED ON RED SEA, VIA CAIRO. FLIGHTS WILL BE IN SUPPORT OF DRILLING OPERATION WHICH READING AND BATES UNDERTAKING FOR MOBIL OIL COMPANY. ACCORDING MOBIL, READING AND BATES WILL BE PRINCIPAL CHARTER PARTY FOR SINGAPORE/CAIRO LEG OF JOURNEY AND MOBIL WILL BE PRINCIPAL CHARTER PARTY FOR CAIRO/HURGHADA LEG. SERVICE SHOULD LAST APPROX TWO MONTHS, WHICH IS EXPECTED DURATION OF DRILLING ACTIVITY.

2. ONE REASON FOR MOBIL'S TAKING OVER CAIRO/HURGHADA LEG

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 11923 031649Z

OF FLIGHT IS THAT EGYPTIANS EVIDENTLY ARE GIVING NON-

AMERICAN FOREIGN AVIATION COMPANIES, WHO ARE RESPONDING TO NEW DEMAND CREATED BY INCREASED OIL COMPANY ACTIVITY, A HARD TIME. EGYPTIAN CIVIL AVIATION AGENCIES ARE REPORTEDLY FREEZING OUT FOREIGN COMPANIES BY NOT GRANTING THEM CLEARANCES AND FAVORING EGYPTIAN COMPANIES WITH SPEEDY CLEARANCE, ETC* SINCE EGYPTIAN COMPANIES ARE MUCH LESS EFFICIENT AND VERY POORLY EQUIPPED, ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES, AMERICAN OIL COMPANIES ARE FINDING PROBLEMS IN CARRYING OUT THEIR EXPLORATION OBLIGATIONS. NO AMERICAN AIR CHARTER COMPANIES ARE BEING TREATED IN THIS FASHION; MOST CHARTER COMPANIES OPERATING HERE ARE BRITISH OR MALTESE.

3. ORIENT PACIFIC PRESIDENT RICHARD L BERNARD TOLD US A FEW DAYS AGO THAT HE IS CONDUCTING DISCUSSIONS WITH EGYPTIAN COMPANY (PRESUMABLY NILE VALLEY AVIATION COMPANY - SEE CAIRO A-157) FOR PROVISION OF EQUIPMENT FOR INTRA-EGYPT CHARTER FLIGHTS. EQUIPMENT WOULD BE EITHER CONVAIR 540 OR FOKKER F-27, PRESENTLY OWNED BY ORIENT.
EILTS

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